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COCHISE COUNTY SHERIFF

SEARCH AND RESCUE

Special points of interest:

- 2.21.16 Search Ramsey Canyon Preserve Over due Hikers
- 2.4.16 training and meeting
- 2.6.16 Tech training
- 2.7.16 Tech Rescue Carr Canyon Rd Reef Camp-ground
- 2.12.16 Search (Recovery) Lutz Canyon
- 5.12.16 Citizen Assist Rustler Park
- 2.13.16 Helo training Charleston Bridge
- 2.20/21.16 Helo Requals
- 2.23.16 Rescue SR 80 and Silver Creek
- 2.26.16 Search Parker Canyon Lake area lost 72 yr old hiker
- 2.28.16 Almost Search for missing 2 Year old in St. David

This Month in Search & Rescue

February 2016

2.1.2016 Search Ramsey Canyon Preserve

This callout was the first one in a very long time happening before 1700 hours. We were called around 0929 AM for this search. A couple was hiking the day prior, from the Ramsey Canyon Preserve for a day hike and had not returned. Further, they had not checked out, since their vehicle was still on location. The temperatures were not the greatest, since we had another snow storm blow through the area and temperatures dropped into the teens. Our response was limited, due to the call out being during a work day. A few of our members made it to the preserve, when the subjects were dropped off by military police. Apparently, they ended up on Fort Huachuca and called 9-1-1. The couple wanted to go on a

loop trail day hike, however, due to the heavy snow in the area, they lost the trail. They decided to hike up to the crest trail, not sure why, since the snow got deeper the higher one went. They could not find the trail either and completely lost their way. Instead of back tracking they decided to find a drainage in hopes it would lead them back into the Ramsey Canyon area. From what we were told they went due north and we believe they ended up in Sawmill Canyon and subsequently in Garden Canyon. They did camp overnight and built a fire, otherwise they would have been in deep trouble (their own words), since the temperature really plummeted. Once it started to snow their fire went out and they

started up hiking again. Once they reached an area in Garden Canyon, where they had service and called 9-1-1. They were transferred to Ft. Huachuca, who responded, checked them and transported them back to their lodging. Another happy ending.



The 5 brave souls

2.4.2016 Training and Meeting

The knot tying training session lasted longer than our regular meeting. Several members tested their skill in tying knots on the knot tying station, but no one broke the record tying all knots correctly under 2 minutes. Even our new coordinator Jake participated in the knot tying training session.



Not sure what knot Jake is working on



2.6.2016 Rescue Training Patient Packaging

“Ability is what you’re capable of doing. Motivation determines what you do. Attitude determines how well you do it.” Unknown

Prior to year end, Eric conducted a training survey asking members what kind of tech training they wanted to work on. Patient packaging was one of the training items requested. We have noticed in the past, stokes packaging takes up quite a bit of time, since we do not work on this skill on a regular basis. Hence, this training day was geared toward stokes packaging and also utilizing the vacuum mattress.

All members received hands on training on both stations, the regular stokes packaging and the stokes with vacuum mattress. In order to avoid for our subject to either slide up or down in the stokes we have to place the subject into a chest and seat harness, which we created out of webbing. Prior



to placing a subject into the stokes, we laid two pieces of webbing out within the stokes. One for the chest harness—loop at the head portion the webbing crossed in the chest area. The second webbing loop is also laid into the stokes, however not crossed with the webbing ends being in the area of the waist. It does not matter which section is tied first chest or seat. We just have to make sure the subject is tied in snug enough to prevent any shifting within the stokes. There is



nothing worse than having a subject shift within the stokes either up or down creating more discomfort or adding to the injury.

While one team worked on the stokes, the other worked on the vacuum mattress and stokes. We learned we need to



use a blanket in the vacuum mattress otherwise it will get too hot /sweaty for the subject.



Tie-in complete and no movement of the subject. This was some needed and excellent training, especially since all members were able to



experience the tie-in and completing the tie in. Repetitions are the key to success. The more we train on these tie-ins the better and more expeditiously we become. The most difficult part of the tie-in for team members was the chest and seat harness, ensuring they tied the knot correctly and not just a granny knot. We also



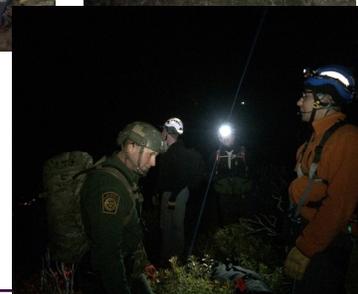
practiced attaching the wheel to the stokes as well.



2.7.2016 Carr Canyon Rescue

David activated the rescue team at about 1849 hours for a stranded hiker in the area of Miller / Carr. This would have been an all nighter for the rescue team if it would not have been for the assistance of DPS Air Rescue. Getting to the area in Carr Canyon was rather difficult, having to put son now chains to reach our destination at the Reef Campground and then the area of the cliffs. Once we got on location, we found out our subject was across the canyon, and it would have taken us pretty much all night

to hike to that location. We had all the rescue gear we needed to include the assistance of two BP agents, who helped us carry some of the gear. Thanks to DPS they were able to conduct a one skid hover and get our subject to include her dog into the helo. We later learned the dog actually saved the subject's life, not being able to go any further and stopping her on a pinnacle with a 100 plus foot drop to either side.



2.12.2016 Search / Recovery Lutz Canyon & Citizen Assist Rustler Park

SAR was busy this day. David responded to Rustler Park to assist a subject, who got stuck in the snow. David and Jim F. handled this particular call, while the SV team was heading to a search in Lutz Canyon for an overdue hiker. David had a heck of a time getting through the snow and almost slid off. Fortunately he made it to the subject, who in turn donated some money to SAR.

The other call was not a successful. Yvonne did an excellent job being the only coordinator on scene for quite some time. Did some coordinator work while working dispatch. The call was a little more complicated, since the wife of our subject went out to the location as well. Forest Service personnel responded to the area and began a hasty search of Lutz trail. He came across our subject about one mile up the trail and informed his dispatch the subject was deceased. This complicated things even more, since the wife and

her friend were on location. Victim notification is quite the delicate matter and should only be done by a deputy, when at all possible. Circumstances will dictate.

John conducted the investigation while the rest of the team prepared for the carry out. Tom F. finally cleared his patrol calls and I was able to dispatch him to this call to assist with victim notification.

It is unknown how far up the subject hiked in Lutz Canyon, beginning the hike around 0800 hours with an expected return time of 1400 hrs. The area in the switch backs of Lutz is extremely difficult and will create issues for the best of hiker.

Again thank you everyone for responding to this call—even though it was not the happy ending we normally would see. But, we brought closure to the family.

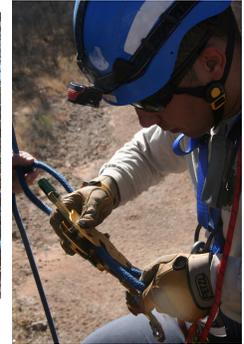


***“Be a yardstick of Quality.”
some people aren’t used to an environment, where excellence is expected.”***

Steve Jobs

2.13.1016 Helo Training Charleston Bridge

In anticipation of our upcoming helo re-certs, we conducted some rappel training at the Charleston Bridge. Also, since Dominic became our newest and youngest Helo Team member, G-Geoff came down and watched him complete the required basics prior to the helo rappels. Dominic conducting some rappels prior to G-Geoff arriving.



Hooking up to the

SRT under the watchful eye of G-Geoff.



2.20 & 21.16 Helo Requals W Stronghold

This is the first time ever. Our helo re-certs spanned over two days. Dominic is getting the

haul with the Bauman bag/stokes and the screamer suit. Safety Briefing prior to training.



run down prior to the training. Unfortunately we ran out of time, and DPS Air rescue had to come back the next day to complete the training, Dominic received his certification and four of us got certified on the 150 foot rappel. Dominic, in addition to the rappel work also had to complete a short



Okay! Who is who. Need big old Rescue number on the back of the helmet.



March 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

March Training Schedule

3.3.16 Training and Meeting
Foothill Station 1730 hrs

3.5.16 Tech Training

3.17.16 Coordinator Training
Foothills Station 1000 hrs
Meeting with new FS 0900 hrs. Douglas

3.19.16 West Stronghold in lieu of East Stronghold. The house is rented. We will conduct the ingress / egress training and if time allows some climbing training ending with a BBQ.

2.23.2016 Rescue SR 80 and Silver Creek

The team was activated for this mission in the morning hours. The subject called in on 9-1-1 stating he had a broken leg and no longer could go on. The coordinates placed him in the area of SR 80 and Silver Creek actually around mile marker 385. DPS Air Rescue was responding from Phoenix, since Tucson was down for maintenance. Even though it was a work day, we did have a pretty good response. Upon the

arrival of DPS Air Rescue they located the subject, landed, and had one medic stay with the subject, while the helo came to the LZ for unloading of some of the TRT equipment. The helo flew back and got the subject and the medic and then flew back and got the second subject. The rest of the Story: Douglas Medic called for a helo, and the subject was flown to TMC for a broken leg. Go figure. An ambulance ride

to Copper Queen for an x-ray



Dr. Scuba Corner

“I can do things you cannot. You can do things I cannot: Together we can do great things.”

other Theresa

Group Photo 2.20.2016

2.26.2016 Search Parker Canyon Lake Area 72YO Female

This mission actually started on 2.15.2016. The friend of the missing / overdue hiker called around 2100 hours to report her friend missing. The missing person had called the friend saying she was lost and she was in the area of section one to section two. According to the information provided by the friend, our missing person was an experienced hiker and did have supplies with her. David activated the team around 0600 hours. Geronimo also assisted in the search and found a female. However, once checked, it was determined this female was not our missing subject. BP did come across a female the other morning, but did not get a name and or any other information. We later learned it was the reporting party BP spoke with and not our missing subject. We never learned what forest service personnel gave the missing female directions. Back to square one for this search. From what I can tell working in dis-

patch, this was a cluster of a search. BP spoke with the friend of the miss-



ing person the other day. FS apparently spoke to the missing person and gave her directions, no one knows. Above is the pattern Geronimo flew in order to find the missing female. It is 1347 hrs, and no sign of the missing female. Geronimo had no luck in finding our missing subject. DPS Air rescue was contacted after Geronimo went off duty. BP then reported to us

they received a call of a friend of the store owner. He in turn received a call from another friend, who was the female Geronimo came across earlier. She ran into our missing person. The citizen parked his car at the intersection of Canelo Hills Pass Rd and the AZ trail and hiked up to the woman. The information was relayed, but it was thought the female was the reporting party, who had disappeared from command post. We were finally able to make contact with the citizen and confirm he actually had the missing person with him.



Geronimo assisted CCSO SAR on this mission for about 5 hours.